

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) and the Medicolegal Death Investigation: “First Do No Harm”

This lecture session will focus on the interaction of first responders, police, child protective services and medical examiners and coroners with grieving family members during death scene investigations – especially the need to pay special attention to what should and should not be said – particularly in child death investigations. The goal of this presentation is to understand the “scene investigation”, early crisis grief, and the role of the doll re-enactment tool that is used during infant death investigations.

- Attendees will learn the importance of the scene investigation in forensic science, particularly in child death, and how these investigations routinely aid in determining manner of death.
- The often chaotic scene environment revolves around “early crisis grief”, which can be overwhelming to even the most seasoned professional. Attendees will be invited into a “Story” told by a crisis intervention counselor which will solidify the importance of understanding what to say and what not to say while guiding grieving families through a paralyzing moment in time.
- Attendees will watch a doll re-enactment and will be educated on the importance of this exercise as a tool in determining cause and manner of death.

Brian P. Ehret, F-ABMDI Senior Forensic Investigator

Office of the Onondaga County Medical Examiner

With more than 26 years experience in forensic science and medicolegal death investigation, Brian Ehret serves as an adjunct professor at Syracuse University’s Forensic and National Security Sciences Institute and on the Board of Directors of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators. Mr. Ehret is an active member of many professional organizations, where he also served as teaching faculty. He lectures on the local, state, national and international levels regarding the importance of conducting proper death scene investigations as they pertain to the law as well as medicine, the need for standardized scene procedures that should be followed “every scene, every time”, as well as the importance of proper protocol and etiquette when working closely with grieving family members, especially during child death investigations.

Nessa Vercillo, CTBS

Nessa Vercillo has been working with children and families since 1987 as a crisis intervention counselor with the Onondaga County Office of the Medical Examiner. She has been involved with the United Way’s Success by Six program, the Syracuse Mayor’s Commission for Women’s Health Task Force and Just for Babies, Inc. which she founded. She was one of the founding members of the Onondaga Child Fatality Review Team. She has been recognized by Vera House for her efforts in reducing domestic violence, the New York State Governor’s Office for her work on behalf of women and children at risk, and the Syracuse Post Standard as a Woman of Achievement. Retired as executive director of the Central New York Eye & Tissue Bank, Ms. Vercillo currently chairs their Advisory Board.

When

July 13, 2018

8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Where

Four Points by
Sheraton
7001 Buffalo Ave.
Niagara Falls, NY

Training provided
FREE OF CHARGE.

Funded by:

New York State
Office of Children
and Family Services
through the Niagara
County Department
of Social Services

[Register online now.](#)

**For information call
716-285-0045.**

Register by July 9.

**Niagara County Child
Fatality Review Team**



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